

Reflection... (by Richard Leonard SJ)

Did you know that Lincoln's Gettysburg address was 250 words long? The man before Lincoln spoke for over an hour. The man who followed Lincoln spoke for even longer. No one remembers today what they said. Lincoln's two and a half minutes, by contrast, changed the USA's history and the mentality of the western world. This call to brevity is always a good challenge to preachers too!

Luke's version of the Lord's Prayer, which has 38 words, is another example of how a few sentences have changed history. Around 50 years after the death of Jesus, Luke's Gospel was written for the Christian community in Antioch, which was the political and cultural capital of the Roman Province of Syria. There are six major themes running throughout this Gospel: prayer, hospitality, compassion, forgiveness, the common life and care for the outsider. Most of them are expressed in the 38 words of this prayer. We declare that we belong to God in the most intimate of ways, as members of God's family, and therefore we belong to each other. We pray that God's Kingdom will come here and now, and, through our gratitude for God's generosity and forgiveness, we can be saved from evil.

I think Christians should keep saying this prayer with great urgency. In most western countries today there are strong right wing political movements who say they are for Christ or that they want our country to return to 'Christian values', but these policies are irreconcilable with the Lord's Prayer. Indeed one politician I heard recently argued that the Immigration Act should be reviewed so that only Christians are allowed to settle here. There is little of the Gospel's hospitality, forgiveness, compassion, common life and care for outsiders in the views of these groups. These people, of course, have every right to publicly state their views on any subject they choose. Morally, however, they must also accept responsibility for what they say and its implications.

It is so easy to allow our faith lives to become compartmentalised. For some, religious belief and practice fits into a nice little box that has no discernible influence on the rest of their lives. Coming to Church is a privatised affair. This may be many things, but it's not Christian. What we celebrate here each Sunday is supposed to have an affect on all areas of our lives, every day. Though we can try to make ourselves feel better by turning religion into a weekly spiritual bonbon, that is not what Jesus and the martyrs of our faith gave their lives for.

(Cont'd P4)

- 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time -

(Year C - July 25, 2010.)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

God is in his holy dwelling; he will give a home to the lonely, he gives power and strength to his people.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! You have received the Spir

You have received the Spirit which makes us God's children, and in that Spirit we call God our Father. Alleluia!

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading:	E
2nd Reading:	C
Gospel:	L

Eccl 1:2,2:21-23 Col 3:1-5,9-11 Lk 12:13-21



PARISH PRAYER:

God our Father, bless this parish so that we may love you more. Help the parents to be a good example to the children and our youth to grow in strength as good Christians.

Encircle our families with your loving care. To the sick grant health, to the aged bring serenity and to those in sorrow, joy. May we grow stronger in faith and may our love for one another become deeper in our daily living. Amen.

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS:

Heavenly Father, help us to respond to and live out our mission in the Church, and in the world. Help all your people to know their vocation in life and assist them to live it well.

For your greater glory and for the service of your people, call many to be priests and religious. Give those whom you call the grace to respond generously and to persevere faithfully. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Pastoral Cluster at Prayer

WEEKEND MASSES: Holy Family, Bell Park:

Holy Spirit, Manifold Hts:

6.00pm Sat 11am - 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays

<u>Ss Peter & Paul's, Geelong West:</u> 5.00pm Sat

11am - 2nd and 4th Sundays 9.30am - Italian Mass at St Patrick's 11.30am (2nd Sunday)

11.15am Wed;

Croatian... 11.30am (1,3,4,5th Sunday), 12.30pm (2nd Sunday) - Slovenian...11.30am (2nd Sunday)

WEEKDAY MASSES:

Holy Family: 9.15am Tues, 9.15am Thurs

English... 8am and 9.30am (Sunday)

Holy Spirit: 9.00am Wed, 11am Fri and 9am Sat. *Reconciliation after Saturday Mass*

Grace McKellar Centre:10.15am - 1st, 3rd, 5th Tues;Maryville Nursing Home:Multicultural Centre:1.30pm - 1st FriVincentian Village:3.00pm - Mon

COMMUNAL PRAYER:

Mon	Holy Family Women's Prayer Group	10.00am	Holy Family Community Centre
Tues	Meditation Group	5.30pm	Holy Family Community Centre
Wed	Prayer of the Church	Before 9am Mass	Holy Spirit Church
Wed	Holy Family Women's Prayer Group	10.00am	Holy Family Community Centre
Thurs	Italian Prayer Group	10.00am	St Patrick's Chapel
Fri	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	After 11am Mass	Holy Spirit Church
Fri	Divine Mercy	3.00pm	Holy Spirit Church
Sat	Rosary	After 9am Mass	Holy Spirit Church

OUR LADY'S STATUE: July 26: McMahon family, Church St; Aug 2: Dunlop family, May St; Aug 9: Cleary family, Parr St. *If anyone would like to have our Lady's Statue or if you could spare an hour a month to help Tina Montalto, ph 5278 9314.*

AS A COMMUNITY WE PRAY FOR:

 RECENT DEATHS:
 Mate Tomljanovic, Vincenzo Gangemi, Narciso (Nat) Paniz

 ANNIVERSARIES:
 Cosimo Mileto, Natalie LaSpada, Venera Filiti, Maria & Natala LaSpada, Maria Marchetta, Lucy Murphy, Hilda Smith, Ted Glabb, Joseph Hagebols, Loftus Sells, Frank McCormack, Garry Dougherty



BAPTISMS: Marilyn Carbis-Stainthorpe (P&P)

PRAY FOR THE SICK: Kathleen Lewis, Mary Smith, Paulus Handianto Soetaper Kasa, Patricia McMahon, Margaret Harris, Damian Taylor, Iolanda Marruso, Joseph Escorse, Wendy Commons, Giuseppa Resciniti

(Please note: After approx five weeks names will be deleted from the sick list - please phone the office if you wish names reinserted)

ROSTER FOR NEXT SUNDAY, AUGUST 1, 2010.

(1st Sunday of the Month)

HOLY FAMILY

Commentators Lectors Special Ministers Welcomers

HOLY SPIRIT:

Commentators Lectors Special Ministers Welcomers Projectionist

Ss PETER & PAUL'S:

Commentators Readers Special Ministers Welcomers Projectionist <u>8.00AM</u> R Allum A Vanjek **F Chrimes, J Bartolo, I Vanjek, B McFarlane** U Guardiano, K McArthur

6.00PM

Sr Sibberas J O'Neill D Boyle, M Abbott, D Torpy V Logan, P Ryan B Stocks

<u>5.00PM</u>

C O'Brian D O'Brian N Neeld, S Beamond, J Jess

<u>9.30AM</u>

T McMahon C&J Taylor G&P Carmody, D Farrar, R&R Zanardo M&E Hoffman

<u>11.00AM</u>

M Shilling M Gurrie V Trinder, M Currie A Dickson, D King, I Cleary, C Kelynack L Coles

Recurring Activities in the Cluster:

Holy Family Casserole lunch -	Third Sunday of each month at the Community Centre from 12noon a Casserole lunch BYO to share			
Holy Family Women's Group -	First Monday evening of each month at the Community Centre 7.30pm			
St Vincent de Paul -	Holy Family meet 1st and 3rd Tuesdays at the Community Centre, 7.30pm			
	Ss Peter & Paul's meet	2nd and 4th Thursdays 2pm in the Small Hall		
	Holy Spirit meets 1st and 3rdTuesdays 7.00pm in Holy Spirit Hall			
Baptism Preps -	2nd and 4th Mondays 7.30pm in the Community Centre			
Children's Liturgy -	Holy Family -	1st and 3rd Sunday at 9.30am Mass (during school term)		
	Holy Spirit -	1st and 3rd Sundays at 11am Mass (during school term)		
	Ss Peter & Paul's-	2nd and 4th Sunday at 11.00am Mass (during school term)		
Playgroup -	Holy Spirit School -	Monday 9.30am-11.30am. 0-3 years Indoor/outdoor play. Ph 5229 8298		
Manifold CWL -	Pastoral Cluster Centre, First Tuesdays in the month			
Italian Mass -	First Thursday of the month in St Patrick's Chapel			
Geelong Stroke Support Group -	Survivors, partners, care	ers & families meet in the Ss Peter & Paul's Hall.		
Catholic Deanery Solo Group -	Dinner at Desma's every 1st Tuesday of the month at 6.30pm. Bookings phone 5278 2712.			
Ss Peter & Paul's Luncheon -	Second Sunday of each month, 12noon in the small Hall.			
Catholic Diners' Club -		h month, 6pm at Dromoland. Dinner & Guest speaker. Ph Patti on 5229 9963		

www.pastoralclustergeelong.org

Cluster News:

RELAY FOR LIFE:

The Fund- and Friend-raising for our Relay for Life will include three Parish Sausage i Sizzles - Oct 3 Holy Spirit after 11am Mass; Oct 10 Ss Peter & Paul's after 11am Mass and Oct 17 Holy Family after 9.30am Mass.

The Melbourne Cup Luncheon will again be held at the Ss Peter & Paul's Presbytery Jesus assures us that if we ask on Nov 2 and, just prior to Christmas, there will be some Sausage Sizzles after Mass with an opportunity to buy Christmas fare.

Also there will be a Bay Cruise of Corio Bay in February 2011. *Please mark these* what we really need with what we simply want. *dates in your diary!*

PASTORAL CLUSTER LEADERSHIP TEAM:

The next Leadership Team meeting will be held **July 29 at 7pm** at the Pastoral Line Cluster.

FROM FR MICK: Give God what's right - not what's left A lot of kneeling will keep you in good standing. When God ordains, He sustains The church is prayer-conditioned

MARIA FORDE 2010 CELTIC SPIRITUALITY AND MUSIC TOUR:

There are still a few seats remaining on our tour of Ireland. In two weeks we will visit the counties of Dublin, Mayo, Galway, Limerick, Clare, Kerry, Cork, Waterford, Tipperary and Wicklow. We will witness breathtaking scenes including the Cliffs of Moher, the Aran Islands, the Ring of Kerry, hear Irish music at its best, learn about religious order founders Catherine McAuley and Edmund Rice and enjoy the craic! The tour commences in Dublin on September 16, accommodation is 3 and 4 star and the tour will be led by singer Maria Forde and a local Irish guide. If you would like to join us on the trip of a lifetime please call Chris at Emeral Travel on 9670 9696 for an itinerary - <u>www.mariaforde.com</u>

Monsignor James Murray - Diamond Jubilee of Ordination

On July 23, Monsignor James Murray will have been ordained a Priest for 60

years. In recognition of this milestone and years of service (most of the

years having been served in Geelong), he will celebrate a Mass of

Thanksgiving at St Mary's Basilica today, Sunday July 25 at 2.30pm.

Afternoon tea will follow. Everyone is most welcome!

On behalf of everyone in the Pastoral Cluster, we thank the Monsignor for his generous service and support to us, and we wish him God's special blessing on this important milestone in his life.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

- Thoughts on Giving -"Ask and you will receive; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you." (Lk 11.9)

Jesus assures us that if we ask Him, God will take care of what we need. The problem is that in our culture we often confuse what we really need with what we simply want. We need very little. However, we usually want so much more. A good steward only asks God for what he needs.

Holy Family:

- ⇒ HOLY FAMILY CHURCH RENOVATIONS: Meeting for fundraising on Tuesday July 27, 7.30pm at the Pastoral Cluster Centre!
- ⇒ SPECIAL INVITATION TO THE PARISIONERS OF HOLY FAMILY: You are invited to help celebrate the Silver Jubilee of Priestly Ordination of Fr Wahid on Tuesday August 17 Mass will be celebrated at St Clement of Rome, Egan Drive, Bulleen at 7.30pm followed by supper, with a Parish Celebration on Sunday August 15 when Mass will be celebrated at St Clement of Rome at 11am followed by lunch. You are invited to attend one or both celebrations; please RSVP by July 29 to the Parish Office on 9850 3262.

Holy Spirit:

⇒ MANIFOLD CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE: Communion Luncheon, Melbourne July 27 - \$30. This money can be paid. For transport or enquiries contact Pat Bourke 5278 2422 or Jeanette Sheahan 5278 2063.

Community Dates and Notices:

- Aug 1...HONOURING GOD THE FATHER: St Benedict's, Burwood with Adoration, prayers and hymns
4pm followed by Mass at 5pm. "Life for the Glory of the Father" book launch, the first complete
authorized English translation of the Messages of God the Father to Mother Eugenia Ravasio will
be available at this special celebration. Contact for books: 9830 4386.
- Aug 4... GOLDEN JUBILEE MASS: Fr Patrick Flanagan will celebrate his 50th Jubilee with a Mass at noon at St Bernard's Church, Belmont. Many parishioners would know Fr Flanagan and are warmly welcome to attend this special celebration. Please bring a plate to share with a cuppa after Mass.
- Aug 18/19/20: ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE PRODUCTION OF 'JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR': Involving students from St Joseph's and Sacred Heart Colleges, staged at the newly refurbished 'Playhouse Theatre' at GPAC, Lt Malop St. Performances start 7.30pm and tickets are available from St Joseph's College Accounts Office 5226 8111 or GPAC 5225 1200. Adults \$20, Conc/students \$15 and groups 10 or more \$15. Family tickets \$60.
- Aug 20... WORLD YOUTH DAY 2011 SPANISH FIESTA: The official launch of the Melbourne Archdiocesan Pilgrimage to WYD 2011 will be held at St Brigid's Church, Fitzroy Nth, beginning 7pm with Praise and Worship followed by Mass celebrated by Archbishop Denis Hart and the Fiesta at 8.30pm in the adjacent Parish Hall. Contact details ph 9412 3326 or email <u>annaliese.wursthorn@cam.org.au</u>
- Aug 20-22... MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND: For bookings ph 9899 0824 or email vicbookings@wwme.org.au
- Sept 12... ST ALOYSIUS COLLEGE PAST PUPILS REUNION: 2-4.30pm at the College, 31 Curran St North Melbourne. All past pupils and staff welcome!

(/Cont'd from P1)

Often Catholics argue that the Church's teaching should be more publicly proclaimed and obeyed. In its social teaching, the Church tells us that we should support political parties which best represent these key values in the Gospel. The Church has also taught us about refugees, immigration, gun control, violence, capital punishment and the rights of minority groups. All Catholics are called to hold true to these teachings. Some Catholics complain that the Church should not speak out on political issues. It is, however, precisely the role of the Church to help people form their consciences and to declare what it sees as evil, sinful or harmful in society. Christ expects nothing less of all of us. And where the Church has not done this, history has judged it VERY harshly, as in the Church's relatively recent condemnation of slavery. The old line goes, 'Be careful what you pray because you might just get what you ask for.'

Let's join then with all Christians and be worthy of the one prayer which unites us and, in the spirit of these 38 words, pray fervently that all people everywhere will become one – in Christ – under our one Father in heaven.

There is no question that these right-wing groups appeal to many of our compatriots because of the difficulties in rural areas, the demoralisation of high unemployment and the growing inequity in wealth distribution. There is, however, NO solution in using race relations, refugees, migrants, single mothers and the poor as scapegoats for our economic shortcomings. All this does is appeal to the worst traits in our human desires, where someone else is always to blame for our difficulties. Long-lasting, truthful and humanly dignified solutions to our nation's problems are those that embody the sacrificial love and compassion of Jesus. On every occasion racism, sexism, bigotry, violence and greed are sinful. This is the Gospel. This is the teaching of the Church.